Seattle Urban Nature Guide

Volunteer with Seattle Parks & Recreation!

Become a Volunteer Nature Guide!

Seattle Urban Nature Guides enhance, promote and foster appreciation of nature by connecting families and students with their Seattle parklands, and providing educational opportunities for all.

As a Nature Guide, you will:

Receive training on Pacific Northwest flora and fauna, habitats and environmental education techniques for diverse audiences.



• Lead hands on learning experiences in a variety of settings from playgrounds to beaches.

Commitment:

- Lead a minimum of 8 education events each year.
- Complete 4 days of training Spring 2016 (choose either Thursday or Saturday trainings).

Locations:

Various places in Seattle, including Discovery Park and Camp Long Environmental Learning Centers.

Service Days & Hours:

Choose to volunteer Tuesday - Friday, and/or weekends. Programs and events are an average of 2 hours.

To Apply

- Please review the attached job description.
- Submit your application by March 8, 2016
- Applications found online at www.seattle.gov/parks/environment/learning.htm
- Complete online, print and mail, or deliver in person to Discovery Park or Camp Long **Environmental Learning Centers.**

Questions? Contact Penny Rose at <u>penny.rose@seattle.gov</u> or (206) 386 – 4250.



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Duties for Seattle Urban Nature Guide:

- Complete training
- Lead and support interpretive and educational programs with organized groups and or community and public groups.
- Communicate frequently with city staff regarding scheduling, upcoming events, and other details.
- Provide park information and correctional education to the public when appropriate.
- Commit to continuing self-education about environmental education for diverse audiences.
- Commit to achieving cultural competence.

Benefits:

- Discover the natural and cultural history of Seattle Parks and Recreation various habitats.
- Develop and hone communication, education and group management skills.
- Share fun, fellowship and community with others who enjoy nature and appreciation of parklands throughout Seattle.

Requirements:

- Attend all training and commit to lead 8 programs or stations by the end of 2016.
- Enjoy working with diverse members of the public.
- Follow policies and procedures of the Seattle Department of Parks and Recreation
- Ability and stamina to lead group walks over rough terrain.
- Willingness to work outdoors in all weather conditions.
- Ability to transport yourself to event locations in parks throughout Seattle in a reliable manner, and to take a Defensive Driving course.

Training:

Spring Naturalist Training:

- 30 hours of formal training. Weekday = 3 Thursdays and 1 Saturday OR Weekend = 4 Saturdays. Both Weekday and Weekend volunteers will attend the kickoff potluck on Tuesday March 29.
- Program observations of veteran volunteers or city education staff is required.
- Spring training focus is pond and beach habitat, teaching techniques, interpretive methods, group dynamics, and cultural competence.

Continuing Education Sessions:

- Skill-building, natural history classes and evaluations are offered throughout the year.
- Fall training will be available in September. Fall training will include the forest habitat and spiders as well as additional teaching techniques and interpretive methods.

